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12. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide.
13. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide, wherein said immunization is carried out with a haemagglutinin peptide coupled to keyhole limpet haemocyanin.
14. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridoma R 3A12 deposited at the "Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen" under the No. DSM ACC2286 (08.10.1996).
15. A method for the production of a monoclonal antibody against the epitope YPYDVPDYA comprising:
 - (a) synthesizing a haemagglutinin peptide,
 - (b) immunizing a small mammal with said peptide,
 - (c) isolating B lymphocytes from the spleen of said mammal and fusing said lymphocytes with mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells to form clones,
 - (d) selecting clones formed in step (c) which bind to a haemagglutinin peptide and to a haemagglutinin fusion protein, and
 - (e) selecting a clone with a high affinity from those selected in step (d) and establishing said clone as a hybrid cell line.

16. The method of claim 6, wherein said haemagglutinin peptide is selected from the group consisting of acetyl-**YPYDVDPDYAGSGSK** (ϵ -biotinoyl) amide and biotinoyl- ϵ -Aca-SGSG**YPYDVPDYA** amide.
17. The method of claim 6, wherein said haemagglutinin fusion protein is haemagglutinin-tagged glutathione-S-transferase.

Respectfully submitted,

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